OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : W. C. Sullivan

FROM : W. R. Wannall

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - R - CUBA

DATE: 11-29-63

1 - Belmont
1 - Mohr
1 - DeLoach
1 - Rosen
1 - Sullivan
1 - Branigan
1 - Wannall
1 - Turner
1 - Anderson
1 - Nasca

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

Re memorandum DeLoach to Mohr 11-26-63 which furnished copy of transcript of Executive Session testimony of Edward Scannell Butler of New Orleans, Louisiana, official of organization known as Information Council of the Americas. Butler's testimony was given before Senate Internal Security Subcommittee (SISS) on 11-24-63.

Butler testified he met Oswald 8-21-63 as result of his being invited to appear on panel debate with Oswald by Bill Stuckey the moderator. Debate was held at studios of WDSU, New Orleans Radio Station.

Butler stated his impression of Oswald was that he was a rational d wholly indoctrinated procommunist individual who exhibited no outward ifestation of any kind of psychotic activity. Oswald in the debate with er and in a previous tape which Butler had heard exhibited a tremendous acity to repeat by rote communist propaganda.

Butler produced two tapes which he made available to SISS. One lt with the debate Butler participated in on 8-21-63 and the pther was e one he had heard dealing with Oswald's interview by Bill Stuckey which as taped about August 17, 1963. (These tapes discussed here appear dentical with the two tapes Butler furnished Assistant Director W. C. Sullivan on 11-26-63. These tapes have been reviewed and results et forth in memorandum Wannall to Sullivan 11-27-63 concerning Oswald.)

Butler then recounted what he had learned about Oswald. He tated Oswald first came to public notice through altercation he had had n Canal Street in New Orleans with Cuban exiles. Before altercation, Oswald ad apparently offered his services to Carlos Bringuier, leader of the "Cuban student director" (Students Revolutionary Directorate, anti-Castro rganization) in New Orleans, but no action was taken on Oswald's offer. Bringuier later learned Oswald was distributing pro-Castro literature. Butler stated Oswald was fined ten dollars for disturbing the peace pparently in connection with this distribution.

Butler was asked if he was personally familiar with any propaganda ut out by communists, Cuban communist sources primarily, that might have cited a person like Oswald, an emotionally unstable person, who believed his propaganda, to go out and assassinate the President of the United States.

REC 55 105-22555-209

Enclosure

HN:pdb
(11)

DEC 18 1963

REC-21

25 DEC 9 1963

15

Butler stated he had knowledge of such communist propaganda. He noted, however, that he was not making the assumption in his statement that Oswald was emotionally unstable. He stated he knew of communist propaganda which would tend to have such an effect, in his opinion, on an emotionally unstable person. Butler stated his organization kept a clipping morgue which he believed contained several thousand clippings, many of which contained incendiary statements by communist leaders some of which were directed personally against President Kennedy. Butler then apparently furnished some examples of this type of propaganda to SISS but they are not specifically named in the testimony.

Butler stated it seemed to him that the fact that many of the materials that Oswald had available to him were originally sponsored by official communist sources, placed the blame for Oswald's actions on the authors or the disseminators of that material.

ACTION:

For information. A copy of the testimony is attached for retention in Bufiles.